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SALT LAKE CITY, AUGUST 28, 1900

SHOULD WE AVOID POLITICS?

It is related by a candidate for a political office in a western shire in England, that during his canvage he asked a raw countryman, who was tending sheep, to give him his vote. 'Vote7" inquired the man of flocks; removing his hat to stimulate the flow of his ideas, "vote? What be that, h'wever?" 'Do you take no interest in politics, that you don't know what a vote la"" retorted the other. A ray of comprehension plerced the shepherd's brain: "I knaws the or'nary sort of tick, but I've niver yeard o' these poly-'uns afoor. I s'pose 'tiw a fresh kind."

That story illustrates the extreme of ignorance. There is another extreme to the subject of politics, and that is indifference. In America, while there is a great deal of ignorance on political questions, the evil of indifference is much greater, and extends to more classes of the population. The educated and wealthy are often as careless in reference to public questions and candidates, as the less-informed and poorer classes. Indeed, many assume an air of superiority when they avow that they "take no steek in politics," and speak of "politicians" as though they were to be either snubbed or ignored.

In a "government of the people, for the people and by the people," every individual capable of voting should take an interest in politics. It is not necessary to be a professional "politiclan," a wire-puller, a log-roller, a echemer for place and pelf, a manipulator for some scheme or person. But a cifizen entrusted with the power of the ballet, ought to use it for good purposes, and therefore should have some knowledge of the questions to be decided and of the candidates to be voted for at an election, and should have sufficient interest in these public matters

It is not to be expected that the masses of the people will be deep students of political theories, or scalous advocates of party measures and nominees. But they ought to bestow sufficlent attention upon them to arrive at a personal conviction as to the course they should pursue in relation to them.

In a country where the people are governed by monarchial or aristocratic power, ignorance and indifference as to ruling influences and political measures may be to some extent pardonable.

This is the first to the control of the But in this great Republic in which the people are sovereign, and Where the responsibility for wrong policies and incompetent or dishonest officials reverts upon the people who vote for them, both ignorance and indifference are inexcusable.

That there is much deception, chicanery and trickery in political metheds may be frankly admitted. But that forms no reason for the apathy of many thousands of American citizens, as to matters that concern them all, and in which everyone of them should take an interested and active part. Citizenship not only brings privfleges and rights but duties and reeponsibilities.

These, however, do not involve intense partisanship. There are higher | Li Hung Chang, can prove from the political party or faction. Truth, right, must be considered "well," as long as | According to H Chron, chapter 21; above mere partisan measures and the that a prisoner, even if torfured, is the deceased Prophet Elljah, but in triumph of partisan candidates. "Good treated with "the greatest considers- modern times no such communication men and wise men ge should observe tion and respect," as long as the for- with departed persons is known to to upheld," is the divine injunction, ture is applied with due politeness. A have occurred. Senator Ingalls' letter movements, especially to the people principer if for instance, he shaply left, the offcumstances that may throw may who form the majority in Utah.

lack of real, in promoting any measure | Chinese diplomant, excels, like can lity, and a great many persons are or the claims of any party nomines for the Occident and Orient settle their dif- easily imposed upon. public office, "What thy hand findsthe ferences by means of harvaments to do, do it with all thy might," and which by obs party, if not by both, "whatever is worth doing is worth are spiered into only to be bloken, and doing well," are sayings equally applied at our which there is no common uncable and worthy of practice. When dereiveding as to their meaning? Nes a man or woman becomes convinced not be as did not liberate the foreignof the justice and propriety of any on a lokin, it mak on army to open political project, decided by the ma- the ratio for them. Treating will not lift be can, fority of a party to which he or aby principle Chinese problem. If the westis attached, vigor and vigilance in pre- 19 if Movil field which he force a moting it are to be expected, and are militim now. It must do so by Ruworthy of commendation rather than | payment superferity, ridicule or reprobation.

views and sime of political opponents. | car are about to help themselves to teris one of the most potent causes of the ritory in different mark of the country.

It is seldom that an office seeks the western powers are unselfish enough to times as much population as Salt Lake Wet Delarey, Orlyler and Botha keep York.

man when the man does not seek the office, and it is not known whether he will make sufficient effort to obtain it after it is fendered him. The political arena new-modaya calls for mighty governments. But in all events, struggles and strong gladistors. Thu the United States has compeople follow, they do not lead; and mercial interests to goard in unless a candidate enters the fray with | that part of the globe, and those ins determination to succeed, he is likely to be thrown down without merey. This is the situation, whatever may be | tions. thought of its rightsousness or propris-

should not be avoided by the rightminded and the pure, but ought to be of sufficient interest to arouse the energles of the best people of every community. If politics needs purifying who shall perform the task? The impure and the charlatan? If the welfare of the country is the object to be attained, is the work to be left to the nim. One by one the trusty leaders full. manipulate? There is no more respectable and praiseworthy avenue open to human effort than that which affords noblest powers, in the establishment and maintenance of perfect popular government, and that means politice in its highest sense and grandest influences and effects.

THE CHINESE DISPATCHES.

There seems to be an impression to Washington that the Chinese government is about to open negotiations with the foreign powers, through members of the Taung-li-Yamen, who, according to advices from Minister Conger, bave returned to Pekin. At the same time it is learned, through French channels of information, that rumors of fighting in the capital city have reached St. Petersburg, and that the allied forces have lost heavily in dead and wounded. These rumors possibly are unfounded. Still they suggest that there is no general confidence in China's peaceful intentions.

It is difficult to understand how the present Chinese knot can be disentangled by means of negotiations. Were China a power with western standards of truth and bonesty, there would be some common ground to meet on. But she is not. China's ideas of trath are as different from ours, as is the cut of clothes in vogue in that country. Her diplomats have the reputation of excelling in "lying for their country." Their sophistry is bold to andacity. And yet they are horrified at the rudeness that characterizes such sophistry. as mendacity. According to their standards, they are no more guilty of telling what is not true, than are our diplomats, when they speak of "spheres of influence," "substantial indomnities" and "rectification of boundary lines." all of which are modern terms for the old-fashlosed "annexation of territory."

The length to which Chinese diplomacy can go in the employment of sophistry is illustrated in the following description of the treatment of foreign ambassadors in China on a former occuston. The paragraph is from the Literary Digest:

The prisoners in the hands of the Chinese in 1860 were the Frenchmen Col.
Foullon de Grandchamp, Captain chandle, Lieutenants Ader and Gaguy, Threndant Dubut, Interpreter Dube. Walter, Lieutenant Anderson. The Times corresponders Bowley, and Messrs. Lock and Parks. The Chinese were informed that negotiations could not be opened unless the prisoners were given up. Frince Rong said 'yes,' but it was a Chinese yes, which means no more than a Chinese no. He repeated the old story: the prisoners were well, they would be released whou peace had been concluded, their presence was needed in Paking as hostages. The murch of the allies was continued. The Chinese then sent back five of the prisoners. M. de Lauterac seemed to have shape. He had been fettered with ropes which, when he complained, were watted to make them shrink and thus eat deeper into his flesh. Yet while he was thus treated. Prince Kong had written as follows to liaron Grou: "I have the hotors for liaron treated." have the henor to inform you that I have given orders that M. de Lauterac shall be treated with the greatest con-sideration and respect. A few days later the rest of the prisoners were re-turned. We are bringing them, they are all here, pleasantly cried the lift) mandarin who walked in front of the vehicle. There was a wild lumble of half-rotten coffine and coffiniese skele-tors in it. Chinese probity demanded that the entire skeletors of these who had been tortured to death should be

When statements thus contradict the facts, we call then wilful raiseboods, but a Chinese scholar, such as considerations than the success of a classics of his country, that a man reason and the general welfare, are for the skeleton is intact. He can prove it, King Jeharam received a letter from That should be a guide in political mandaria will deav that he killed a should be given to the public with all But this does not necessarily signify more ideals of truth. In such sophistry ing its critical minute, is given to credit

ridicule or reprobation.

Activity and enthusiasm, however, different governments. There is some the time of British commerce. should not extend to unfair conduct or | talk about solving the customs receipts any kind of misrepresentation. It is of the country in order to secure the shameful when either party abuses. payment of the indemnity that is to be maligns and defauers the other. The paid. At the same time there are signs mutilation. common practice of percerting the that the Russians, Germans and Japan-

withdrawal from active politics of an What China needs, and what the many estimable citizens. It is de- would needs in China, to a stable, houployable and events to be incurable, ver government, in touch with the fam. Its able to make him tell it. should be dropped and condomined by the of nations. That this object could the respectable among all the parties | best be gained by the separation of or the country, until discency is secured. The racially divergent provinces into and respect for truth and honor is es- imdependent states, appears probable. That would give a new impetus to na-It is not right to regard with iii- tional life in the wast country. It favor or disdain, the legitimate efforts | would remove the "yellow danger" and of aspirants to public office to obtain cless further excuse for European exthey ought to pursue in relation to panelon in that direction. Whether the

consent to such an arrangement is another question. They are in Uhina for onnexation and not for the establishment of permament Asiatio

torests abould be considered in the further development of the national rela-

ANOTHER BOER CAPTURED.

The Boars have lost another of their generals at a time when they seem to have railled for a new effort at resisting the invading army. This time it is General Olivier, who at an early stage of the war marched a small force of Boers past the entire British army, and arrived at his destination in safety, not. withstanding all efforts to intercept lower or unscrupulous elements to yielding to the superior number and resomeony of the enemy.

The dispatches from South Africa also announce that the Hours, after consulopportunity for the exercise of man's | totton with Kruger and Stevn, have resolved to make a final stand in the Lyndenburg district. It is believed that this mountainous region has been well fortified and made almost impregnable. It is said to be well provided with ammonition and food. The valleys between the mountains are well watered and productive, so that the army can sustain itself there for a long period. If the plan is carried out, it may take a iong time before these mountain fastnesses can be taken and their defenders subdued. But then, as long as the British are in possession of the entire country outside this Gatriet, it does not appear how the defense of the Lyndenburg mountains can be of any permanent benfly to the Bosrs,

BEECHER INNOCENT.

The statement is made on the authority | cedure, of the British Weekly, one of the most frustworthy of the religious journals of the Congregational denomination; and It is regarded as absolutely reliable.

Henry Ward Beecher ranked high among the Protestant preachers of this century. He was a power in our national life. It is therefore gratifying to the American public to learn that every state on his memory has been removed. His friends, of course, never doubted his innocence, but a spot on a clerical robe is difficult to remove. It is much better to know that it never existed except in the imagination of the unitiformed or the fabrications of enemies.

SENATOR INGALES LETTER.

The following anecdote, in which the late Senator John J. Ingalis is said to have received a letter from a deceased friend, a year after his death, is told by a Fort Scott correspondent of the St. Louis Globs-Democrat. If it is true it is well worth repeating. The writer

"The death of John J. Ingails recalls a remarkable incident in his life, which he related to a small company of friends in this city recently, and which has never men, there were Lieutenant Colonel been published. He had been to a big Walter, Lieutenant Anderson. The picnic at Redfield, in this county, and playing ball in the street, and the dis-tinguished Senator naked why, if God had seen fit to take the child's life, He found it necessary to cause him to be letter from a friend who had been dead or, expressing great happiness on the part of the deceased friend. 'I knew hat friend's handwriting as well as I friend, whose funeral I attended a year ing to my wife, but you youy believe never told her of that letter.' The lends of Mr. Ingalls to whom he reated this strange circumstance nove they are somewhat curious to know how near it came to being correct."

him to starve to death. Such are Chis. light upon it. Our age, notwithstend-

The last stand of the Bours at Machadotorp seems to have been a

The luxurrection in Persia is said by the Shah to be not serious. Nevertheless he will harry home to put it down,

American coal to furnish the British havy la all right for Britain now, but It marks a notable decadence of an im-

The line of communication between

Pekin and Tien Tain is a hard road. to travel just now. Even the maker disputches cannot get through without The allies have got one Chinese notable as a prisoner. That is Li Hang

Chang. They can let him know the

truth now, even though they may not ; The persistent reports that the allies fee solidly In China cutmat agree suggests that ty declars (tal while any one of the powers concerned. could give the Chinese army a bad beating, the disagreeing combination

them all. The State of Idaho has nearly three

gives China an opportunity to best

City. The Gem of the Mountains has considerable room to grow yet Still, it s taking good mivantage of opportuni-

The United States old not send a warship to Tangler to bring the Sultan of Moracca to time. The vessel mistaken for a fighter was the Massachusetts State school ship, and its presence seems to have taught the Sultan e les-

The Pope refused King Humbert "absolution" unless the King would abdicate and give up Rame as a part of the Italian pessessions. The respective values set upon "absolution" and the grown by Humbert are shown in the fact that the latter didn't abdicate.

The trouble between Roumania and Bulgaria is drawing nearer to a brists. War seems certain there, and whether it will be stopped at an early date or will ignite the whole combustible heap of the East depends on the temper of the European powers, which now show belligerent tendencies.

"Look out for those pickpeckets," was a warning given by Mr. Dryan to the crowd at Barneston, Neb., last week. The assemblage heeded well that admonifion, whatever they did with the rest of his speech, and several persons hustled out of the crowd in a way that indicated gullty consciences.

In considering whether or not Germany will consent to the present reignlog dynasty remaining in power to Chino, it is well to remember that Germany has official advices that her minlater, Baron Von Keineler, was not slain by Boxers or by a mob, but by regular Chinese policemen, under orders from their superior officers.

It is said that the Boers have been New particulars seem to have come to defeated at what has been termed as light in the once famous Henry Ward | Botha's lust stand. If the report is Beecher trial, by which the noted true, then the war should be over preacher is cleared of every imperior quickly. In that event the continued shadow of suspicion. Two or three let- | shipment of British soldlers to South ters which were ascribed to Beecher, Africa looks a little strange, for not and which were very damaging to him, even colonization would be left tham are now declared to have been forged, as a profitable and necessary pro-

IN CRINA.

New York Evening Sun. If the Dowager empress together with the rightful ruler of the empire, were in the hands of the allies, the work of bringing order out of chaos would be helped enormously. It would be possible or the powers to set themselves to the aportant task of re-establishing a stable and responsible government. As the downger is only an upstart, who at-calned to influence by shorr usurpation, with nothing socred about her indi-vidually, there would be little difficulty

putting an end to her influence and St. Paul Pioneer Press. But the maintenance of the present lynasty, be it remarked, does not necessyrily involve the support of the dow-ager empress, If the young emperor Kwang Hau is alive and can be found it is probable that with the support of the powers he could take up the work which his resistionary aunt interrupted two years ago. But so deep are the prejudices of the Chinese populace, and so sensitive to foreign interference, that the talk of chosaing, establishing and maintaining a ruler is likely to be pro-longed and delicate unless the powers pursue the obvious course of recognizing the titular emperor, Kwang Hau. Even if the rivairies and jeulousies of blem the solution will require the

Los Angeles Express. Li Hung Chang proposes the holding of an international conference for the hough not original with the Mongolian liplomat, and it is probable that something of that sort will be done as soen as the pressing business in hand about the walls of the sacred city is concluded, and the whereabouts of the responsible

highest degree of tact.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. One of the quoted authorities for the stories of herrible massacres of Chinese non-combatante by Russian troops a the Russian embassy that she made any statement of the kind, and testified from her personal observation to a tolly different behavior by the Russian of the Englishwoman who mony to respect, for the original story was evidently set affoat With the object making prejudice against the Rus sians among English readers.

Chlenge Record. The success of this diplomacy up to the present is of especial importance in view of the precarious situation at Peese government holding and shadow of authori-Lt Hung Chang, alleged are still fighting the allies, Pekin has become a political bediam.

Springfuld Republican. Many people are beginning to won der, now that the United States legawould, what business ar

Chicago Timés-Herald. But the President's reply to the emrove that our givern usiating on the libe President said: accomplished if is the comment that no o and to exist on the a to an amicable acquestions arisin friendly good offices of this government will, with the assent of the other pow-ers, be cherristly placed at your ma-

New York Evening Post. The great dancer is that the large it interests in Chine iptly and amphatical

SOUTH AFRICA.

Baltimore Sun. The relief of the Bland's river postfor a time given up as lost-is small comfort to the British, who understand

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the field. These leaders make a point the field. These leaders make a point of visiting from time to time "pacified" districts and calling again to arms the burghers who have yielded and taken the oath of allegiance to the queen. The burghers rally again to the cause of liberty, with the result that all the western part of the Transvaal—thought to have been discovered. have been disarmed—is again to camp almost as far westward as Mafekins. Appearances, Lord Roberts must per-ceive, are delusive. Neither the Trans-vaal nor the Orange State is as nearly "conquered" as it seems to be.

San Francisco Call.

It is not fair war that Roberts is making in South Africa. It is an at-tempt to compet the surrender of combatants by abuse of non-combalants, which is not recognized by nations nor by soldiers as within the code of war.
The world may long wait for the sure
retribution that will follow the tactics
of fioherts and Kitchener, but the shadow of judgment always overtakes a people who sanction such things, and the people of England owe it to them-selves to purge their hearts of the spirit which permits such deeds to be done in their names.

New York Mail and Express. There is to be no more lenlency to submitted burghers, the English auitias declare, and deportation signal penalties are to be the lot oprisoners who violate their oath an take up arms again. It is also reported that Lord Roberts will return home in October, the theory being that the war as a war, will then be over and that he has earned a rest, Kitchener being red upon to exercise the severity which sutherities believe is needed to actude operations. Whether the burghers have been taking up arms again because of the leniency of Lord Hoberta's orders, or because of the alleged severity with which some of his subordinates have enforced them--will be settled by the effect of the more rigorous policy just announced.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The September number of The Forum opens with an article on "Anti-English Feeling Among the Germans," by Prof. Max Muller George E. Roberts writes about "The Kansas City Financial fermenty United States consul at Magdeburg, enters "A Plea for Con-sular Inspection." "Work and Wages in France" is the subject of a paper by Wulter B. Scaife. Edwin L. Johnson contributes "A Plea for the New Cercal, the Cotton Seed." Maurice Engagnetic the New York correspondent of the Notic Frein Presse, Vienno, writes about 'The Constitutional Crists in Austria,' and Prof. Paul 8 Reinsch about "China Against the World." "Japan's Attitude Toward China" is discussed by D. W. Stevens, counselor discissed by D. W. Stevens, counselor to the Japanese legation at Washington II. L. West is the author of a comparison between the Republican and Democratic platforms. Ex-Governor Stone, of Missouri, views the campaign of 1900 from a Democratic standpoint, and Prof. Walter F. Wilcox describes "American Census Methoda" "Mr. Proderick Harrisson's New Ecsave" is Frederick Harrisson's New Essays' is the subject of a contribution by Prof. W. P. Trent.—The Ferum Publishing

The list of contents of the current number of the Living Age is as fol-lows: "Danie's Realistic Treatment of the ideat," by Alfred Austin, National Heview, "The Lark Makes Brighter Scholars than the Male," by Frederick Langleridge, "Old and New Japan, included), by Andre Bellesort, Revue des Deux Mendes, "The Friend of the Creature," by the Ear, new Martinonne, ature," by the Baroness Martineng aresco, Contemporary Review Professor Crossley, chapter III, by E. Cule, Chamber's Journal; "Moor, Memories," Corndil Magazine liba, "Academy: "Concerning Hosts | Hostessee," by T. 11 S. Escoti and Hostesses, by T. H. S. Excott. Fartnightly Review; "The Summer Wing," by J. J. Hell, Chamber's Journal! "Derwent Findlay," Q. C., by Walter E. Grogan, Argosy: "The Fature of the Progressiva Nations," Saturday Review, "The Art of Writing for Children," Academy: "Since We Should Part," by Alfred Perceval Graves, Speciator.—Living Age Co., Boston.

Success for September is an artistic Said Interesting confribution to current liberature. Its first article is a sketch of "John Burrowa, One of Nature's Noblemen," by Reo Bennett! other subjusts treated on are "Should a College Course Procede Business Life," "The gredy of a Snob," "Common Sense quete," How Jim Waisen went to bales, "Rising Above the Great and Level," "Talks With Young Dend Level. "Talks With Young Men." "Mastal Gymnastics." "Has the Mission Effort in China been Worth White." That and Tolerance Needed in Uhina, "The Royal Decoration of the Ages," "Where Americans May Win." Live in the Kingdom of Hope." "A Question of Penmanship," "China's Diplomatic Bluft," and "Some Advantages of a Small College."—University Buttling, Washington Square, New York.

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